## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00643 290229Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 CTME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15 /053 W

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R 282100Z JUN 78 FM AMCONSUL BELIZE TO DEA EL PASO INTELLIGENCE CENTER DEA HQS WASHDC SECSTATE WASHDC 6490 AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

**UNCLAS BELIZE 643** 

GUATEMALA FOR DEA SAIC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SUSPICIOUS VESSEL

REF: EPIC 4084

- 1. BELIZEAN COMPTROLLER OF CUSTOMS TELFORD VERNON HAS PASSED CONGEN FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING ARRIVAL IN BELIZE OF OCEAN-GOING VESSEL WHOSE ACTIVITIES HE REGARDS AS SUSPICIOUS.
- 2. VESSEL IS M/V MARGOTH BUILT 1956 IN SWEDEN, STEEL HULL, 500 TONS, LENGTH 47.59 METERS, BEAM 8.26 METERS, DRAFT 3.6 METERS. SHIP'S DOCUMENTS SHOW PANAMANIAN REGISTRY NO. 3605-PEXT DATED NOVEMBER 15, 1973, AND OWNER AS TICO INTERNATIONAL, S.A., PANAMA. NAME GIVEN IN CONNECTION WITH REGISTRATION IS CARLOS AROZAMENA NORRIEGA CASTRO (PHONETIC). CREW CONSIST OF 14 COLOMBIAN NATIONALS, INCLUDING CAPTAIN HECTOR JOSE KAIRVZ TRONCOSO. COMPTROLLER VERNON ALSO SAID PAPERS INDICATE VESSEL WAS FORMERLY NAMED CORALITA WITH BRITISH REGISTRY.

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3. ACCORDING TO VERNON, VESSEL APPARENTLY DEPARTED BARANQUILLA APRIL 25, 1978, WITHOUT HAVING OBTAINED PORT CLEARANCE. CAPTAIN TOLD VERNON FIRST PORT OF CALL WAS TO HAVEBEEN ORANJESTAD, ARUBA. HOWEVER, BEFORE ARRIVAL THERE VESSEL'S PRINCIPALS RADIOED CHANGE OF DESTINATION TO PROGRESO, YUCATAN, MEXICO. VESSEL DEVELOPED MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES EN ROUTE PROGRESO AND PUT INTO BELIZE ON

JUNE 19. UNNAMED INDIVIDUAL SUBSEQUENTLY FLEW TO BELIZE FROM COLOMBIA WITH DOCUMENT CLAIMED TO BE "CLEARANCE" FROM PORT AUTHORITIES IN BARANQUILLA, ALTHOUGH VERNON HAS NO IMMEDIATE WAY OF CONFIRMING DOCUMENT'S AUTHENTICITY. CAPTAIN TOLD VERNON THAT VESSEL IS AWAITING ARRIVAL OF "SOME ONE FROM PANAMA" BEFORE PROCEEDING FROM BELIZE.

- 4. VESSEL REPORTEDLY LEFT COLOMBIA EMPTY AND REMAINS EMPTY IN BELIZE. CAPTAIN CLAIMS NOT TO KNOW NATURE OF CARGO HE WAS TO PICK UP IN ARUBA OR PROGRESO, NOR DOES HE KNOW ONWARD PORT. PRESUMABLY HE EXPECTS RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRINCIPALS.
- 5. CONOFFS HAVE NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY EXAMINE SHIP'S DOCUMENTS OR VESSEL ITSELF, BUT WILL DO SO ASAP IN ATTEMPT DEVELOP ADDITIONAL DATA IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES SET FORTH IN REFERENCED MESSAGE.
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